

Spring may be nearly upon us, but hot summer temperatures and another winter are just months away. I believe the Energy Policy Act provision to help low-income consumers is an innovative tool that must be allowed to work. The Royalty-in-Kind for Energy Assistance Improvement Act would make this possible. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and to support energy assistance for this nation's most vulnerable residents.

Here is a brief outline of the bill:

Section One—provides a short title ("Royalty-in-Kind for Energy Assistance Improvement Act of 2006").

Section Two—sets forth findings regarding the importance of LIHEAP and the intent of the relevant provisions of law regarding payment of royalties-in-kind and the conclusion of the Interior Department that the provision of the 2005 Energy Policy Act intended to allow use of royalties-in-kind to benefit low-income consumers cannot be implemented. This section also states the bill's purpose, which is to amend that part of the Energy Policy Act in order to make it possible for it to be implemented in order to assist low-income people to meet their energy needs.

Section Three—amends the relevant provision (Section 342(j)) of the Energy Policy Act by—

(1) adding explicit authority for the Interior Department to sell royalty-in-kind oil or gas for as little as half its fair market value in implementing that part of the Energy Policy Act under an agreement that the purchaser will be required to provide an appropriate amount of resources to a Federal low-income energy assistance program;

(2) clarifying that such a sale at a discounted price will be deemed to comply with the Anti-deficiency Act; and

(3) authorizing the Interior Department to issue rules and enter into agreements that are considered appropriate in order to implement that part of the Energy Policy Act.

These changes are specifically designed to correct the legal deficiencies that the Interior Department has determined currently make it impossible for it to implement this part of the Energy Policy Act.

#### H.R. 884—PROMOTING ANTITERRORISM COOPERATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 27, 2007*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today in support of H.R. 884, the "Promoting Antiterrorism Cooperation through Technology and Science Act."

While touring the northeast United States in 1955, President Eisenhower spoke of the importance of international diplomacy and cooperation to solve the rising problems posed by communism in the Far East. It was Eisenhower who said "Only strength can cooperate. Weakness can only beg." Just as Eisenhower envisioned the role of international cooperation to address the communist threat in the 20th century, so too must we solicit international cooperation to solve the terrorism threat in the 21st century.

The United States must embrace the concept of bilateral cooperation in order to win the war on terrorism, and I believe that this bill is an important step in that direction. H.R. 884 will establish a Science and Technology Homeland Security International Cooperative Programs Office to facilitate international cooperative activities throughout the Directorate of Science and Technology.

This legislation does not seek to duplicate other efforts underway. Rather, it will strengthen ongoing partnerships with homeland security allies such as Israel, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and Singapore, while encouraging new ones. The United States currently participates in similar bilateral programs such as the Binational Industrial Research and Development, or BIRD foundation, in which the United States and Israel cooperate on defense-related R&D. The office would conduct similar activities, but would be run by the Department of Homeland Security rather than a private foundation.

This office within the Department of Homeland Security will foster partnerships with foreign governments and businesses by requiring that the foreign partner equitably match U.S. funding expended through direct funding or funding of complementary activities, or through provision of staff, facilities, material, or equipment.

This country has a proud history of recognizing the value of and promoting international cooperation, particularly in the field of technology. I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of this bipartisan legislation, and encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 884.

#### RECOGNIZING LINDA HOLBROOK

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2007*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished public service of Linda Holbrook. After 35 years with the U.S. Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service, IRS, she will retire.

During her tenure, Linda worked her way from an entry-level data transcriber to her current position for the past 13 years as Territory Manager of the IRS Real Estate and Facilities Management Operations, Fresno Territory. I have had the pleasure of working with Linda, and her dedication to the community is to be commended.

During her time in Facilities Management, Linda guided the acquisition of over 500,000 square feet of space in eight buildings in downtown Fresno, bringing thousands of Federal employees and visitors into our central business district. Her support of the city of Fresno's downtown revitalization effort has been widely recognized and has served as a stellar example of the benefits that can arise from partnership among congressional, Federal Government and local officials. Linda serves as an example to staff throughout the Federal Government of how a local program manager can work closely with local officials to assure that each group's work complements the others in such a way that both are enhanced.

Throughout her career at the IRS, Linda Holbrook has proven to be a highly effective

administrator who was always committed to public service. As she gets set to spend more time with her husband, Brent, I wish her continued success and good luck in all her future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING THE FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2007 VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2007*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce annually recognizes individuals who have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety with the prestigious Valor Award. Several members of the Vienna Police Department have earned this highest honor that Fairfax County bestows upon its public safety officials.

There are several types of Valor Awards that can be awarded to a public safety officer: the Lifesaving Award, the Certificate of Valor, or the Gold, Silver, or Bronze Medal of Valor.

It is with great pride that I enter into the record the names of the recipients of the 2007 Valor Awards in the Vienna Police Department. Receiving the Lifesaving Award: Master Police Officer Trent H. Nelson, Sergeant Jamie L. Smith, Police Officer First Class Jarod B. Evans; the Certificate of Valor: Sergeant Michael R. Reeves, Officer Christopher W. Shaver.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the men and women who serve in the Vienna Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Fairfax County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

#### IN HONOR OF AFLAC, INC. BEING NAMED ONE OF THE BEST COMPANIES IN AMERICA

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2007*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend a company that has made Columbus, GA, the Second Congressional District of Georgia and the United States proud. Aflac, Inc., a company that epitomizes corporate citizenship and responsibility towards its employees, recently was named by Forbes magazine to their Platinum 400 List of America's Best Big Companies.

To create the list, Forbes looked at more than 1,000 publicly traded companies with at least \$1 billion in revenue, and chose 400 based on metrics, earnings forecasts, corporate governance ratings, and other public company information. Of course, Forbes selected these companies not just for their financial performance, but also for their leadership, innovation, and execution.